

Jan. 27.

HALIFAX COLD STORAGE PLANT.

Handles Fifteen Million Pounds of Fish Annually.

An industry in Halifax, N. S., the magnitude of which people generally do not realize, and which has been steadily growing in importance since its inception, seven years ago, is that of the Halifax Cold Storage Company. Its operations have not been heralded on the housetop, but they are none the less real and tangible.

"There are few, probably none who know," said a Halifax business man "that last year the Halifax Cold Storage Company, of which Arthur Boutiller is president and manager, handled for export 15,000,000 pounds of fish. At 20,000 pounds to the car, this would represent, if shipped by rail, 750 cars—about 17 solid train loads.

"This fish finds a market all over Canada from Atlantic to Pacific and not only in Canada,—large orders are shipped to the northern cities of the United States from Chicago to Seattle.

"On Saturday alone, I am told," the merchant went on to say, "orders were received for seven cars, besides small orders."

A look down the wharf and into the building and plant, where the company carry on operations showed the value of such an industry to Halifax and at the same time the profitable thing it must be to those interested in it. Over 60 men were at work in the cleaning, smoking, packing and cold storage departments and the scientific, practical and effective means of putting up the fish, transforming it into the various delicious articles of food in which it emerges from the establishment, was something well worth seeing.

The company's operations are divided into two sections. Halifax is the headquarters, the plant there finding its source of supply in the score of fishing villages on the Nova Scotia coast, and here also is one of the cold storage plants. The other plant is at Port Hawkesbury and the establishment there draws its supplies from a long coast line from Canso to Ingonish.

The company's business is highly prosperous as a financial undertaking, dividends at the rate of seven per cent., being paid on the capital of \$100,000. Mr. Boutiller says the industry is only just begun. It is capable of infinite development.

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FLAT CALM IN THE HARBOR.

Even Shore Boats Unable to Run to Fishing Grounds.

It was flat calm all night and there were no arrivals. Indeed there was so little wind that the shore boat fleet, which started out for the fishing grounds during the night was unable to fan out by the Point, many of the vessels coming to anchor between Pavilion beach and the breakwater, where they were still lying this morning, waiting for a breeze.

Yesterday afternoon, the three-masted sch. Arthur V. S. Woodruff of Bucksport, Me., arrived from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a big cargo of herring. She has 1500 barrels of salt herring in bulk, 400 barrels of pickled herring, and 100 barrels of frozen herring.

It was thought that some of the vessels at Boston yesterday might be coming down with some of their fish to split, but such is evidently not the case, as none of them had shown up this morning.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Arthur V. S. Woodruff, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1500 bbls. salt herring, 400 bbls. pickled herring, 100 bbls. frozen herring.

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Steamer Quoddy, shore, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Nomad, shore, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.
Sch. Benjamin F. Phillips, via Boston.
Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.
Sch. Ralph Russell, via Boston.
Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.
Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore.
Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.
Sch. George H. Lube, shore.
Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, haddocking.
Sch. Priscilla, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 13c per lb. for white, and 11c for gray.

Board of trade prices:

Large drift Georges cod, \$3.60 per cwt.; medium cod, \$3.25.

Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.

Large salt handline Georges cod, large, \$3.75; mediums, \$3.25.

Dory handline salt cod, large \$3.25; medium, \$3.

Eastern drift salt cod, large, \$3.25 per cwt.; medium, \$3.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.70; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.65 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 65 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, 60 cts.

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BOSTON NOT FISH HUNGRY.

Few Arrivals Today But Prices Are Low.

There is nothing very stirring at T wharf this morning, arrivals are few but prices on all grades, with one exception, are low. Two off-shore vessels and four of the market fleet have 125,000 pounds altogether and the dealers are not hungry for even these few.

The off-shore vessels are schs. Mildred Robinson and Rex, with small fares. The boats have fair trips.

Off-shore haddock brought \$1.25 with shores at \$2. Shore large cod at \$4 was the only bright spot on the list. Off-shore cod went begging.

The receipts in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Mildred Robinson, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Nettle, 400 haddock, 300 cod, 700 pollock.

Sch. Stranger, 8000 haddock, 2000 cod, 500 hake, 3000 pollock.

Sch. Rex, 20,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.

Sch. Rose Standish, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Hope, 11,000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Haddock, \$1.25 to \$2 per cwt.; shore large cod, \$4; market cod, \$2 to \$2.50; hake, \$2 to \$3; pollock, \$2.

Sch. Frances Whalen Considerably Damaged.

An examination was made yesterday of sch. Frances Whalen which was damaged by fire while moored at Long wharf, Boston, early Wednesday. The deck beams are so charred that they will have to be removed. The bunks, forecabin, sheathing and the under deck are also scorched. It will cost more than \$500 to restore the vessel to her former condition.

At Portland With Halibut.

Sch. Selma, Capt. Charles Colson, of this port, is at Portland this morning with a fine fare of 25,000 pounds of halibut, having been out but 19 days. As the halibut price is high, the craft will make a fine stock on her first trip of the new year.

Will Go Haddocking.

Capt. Freeman Mason will take sch. Muriel to Boston and fit her for winter haddocking.

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STRANGE FISH AT BOSTON.

Brought from India by Engineer of German Freight Steamer.

The strangest fish in all the world—and from the other end of the world at that—came in at Boston on the German freighter Fangturm yesterday from India. On the boat they called them dwarf fish, because they are only an inch long. But a bunch of marine reporters down at quarantining, renamed them Yankee Doodle fish, for they are red, white and blue. Some of these have blue eyes too. A lot of the others show green with various other colors. The German sailors said these were envious.

It's a fish story, but it's no laughing matter. If you don't believe it ask Engineer Batze. They number 150 and deep down in the engine room, where they saw them, they form the most extraordinary aquarium that ever crossed the seas. Some are half a dozen colors merged into one and they have things, too on the leopard. They can change their spots a thousand times a day. It is said they are the smallest "grown-up" fish on earth. Their East India name is Guranis.

Engineer Batze owns them, and if he is properly persuaded, he may part with some at Boston—that is provided the financial inducements are sufficient. He isn't particular, for he just as soon as not take them back home to the Fatherland.

BUSY DAY AT T WHARF.

Meat Boycott Causing 20 Per Cent. increase in Fish Trade.

Wednesday was the busiest Wednesday the wholesale fish dealers on T wharf, Boston, have seen in months, and the dealers themselves say it's on account of the anti-meat crusade. No less an authority than President M. F. Blanchard of the T Wharf Corporation declared that the meat strike has brought over 20 per cent. increase in business to the fish men since the beginning of the week. They were even sending fish to New York Wednesday, which means something, when it is remembered that New York gets most of its fish from the Jersey coast, ordinarily.

There was a mighty fleet of fishing vessels at the wharf ready to disgorge their cargoes to supply the tables of those who are bucking the trust. As fast as the cod, haddock, pollock and hake could be taken from the schooners and weighed it was rushed to the stores on the wharf and packed in ice in boxes and barrels and shifted to the expressman's van with bewildering speed. Most of the shipments went to the interior of New England. But a lot was billed through to the middle west, where the no-beef diet got its first adherents. And New York's far-famed Fulton Market took about all it could get.

DORY CAPSIZED.

One of the Crew of Sch. Hockomock Had Narrow Escape.

A few days ago Henry Freeman of Port Medway, N. S., one of the crew of the fishing schooner Hockomock of Portland, while engaged in fishing in the vicinity of Matinicus rock, got upset from the dory in which he was engaged in tending trawls. The dory was overturned and it was fully an hour before he was rescued. Freeman is not a swimmer, and as the dory in which he was at work was quite a distance from the schooner it was a long time before it was noticed that he was in need of assistance. The schooner put to his assistance and he was taken on board, and although thoroughly drenched he fortunately escaped serious results from his involuntary plunge in the ocean.

Large Shipment of Fertilizer.

The Anacortes American says:

"The Robinson Fisheries Company reports one of the largest shipments of fertilizer on record. Tuesday, January 11, the Watson loaded 200 tons and on Saturday last the Admiral Sampson took the remaining 200 tons of the consignment. The cargo was shipped to Los Angeles, where the fertilizer will be used in the orange groves.

"This shipment, which values about \$15,000, would fill 25 ordinary box cars, and is believed to have been the largest shipment ever made on this coast. The fertilizer, as used in California, will treat about 1500 acres of orange grove."

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Small Pollock at Eastport.

Eastport, Me., is having a gay time with the small pollock which have come into the harbor. The fishermen get five dollars per hogshead and are reaping a harvest. Recently the fish became so plentiful that many of them came in too close to the shore and were stranded when the tide went out and were picked up from the beach later.

The Herring Fleet.

According to advices received yesterday from Birchy Cove, N. F., schs. T. M. Nicholson, Elizabeth, Arbutus, Saladin and Indiana were waiting to secure cargoes of herring. The Indiana was the latest arrival.

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NO ARRIVALS THIS MORNING.

Two Small Fares Landed Yesterday Afternoon.

This is another morning with no arrivals at this port with fish. Yesterday afternoon, sch. Walter P. Goulart took out a small fare and shipped it to the Boston market.

Sch. Tecumseh also took out a small fare here yesterday afternoon.

Quite a number of the market boats are lying in port today and it appears that there is no chance to set today on the shore grounds.

Today's Receipts

Sch. Maud F. Silva, via Boston.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, via Boston.
Sch. Aspinet, via Boston.
Sch. Elva L. Spurling, via Boston.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.
Sch. Alice, shore.
Sch. Galatea, shore.
Sch. Tecumseh, shore, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Mary B. Greer, shore.
Sch. Priscilla, shore.
Sch. Washakie, shore.

Vessels Sailed

Sch. Oriole, Philadelphia.
Sch. Ingomar, haddocking.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 13c per lb. for white, and 11c for gray.

Board of trade prices:

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Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

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Large salt handline Georges cod, large, \$3.75; mediums, \$3.25.

Dory handline salt cod, large \$3.25; medium, \$3.

Eastern drift salt cod, large, \$3.25 per cwt.; medium, \$3.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.70; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.65 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 65 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, 60 cts.

Portland Fish Notes.

One trip of lobsters and one trip of fish were reported here Wednesday. Sch. Mary E. Smith had 6000 of the crustaceans for F. S. Willard and sch. Angie B. Watson took out 20,000 pounds of fish at Commercial wharf.

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Portland Fish Notes.

Fish receipts the past two days have been very light, for while the weather on land has been very mild a heavy sea has been running outside, so that the vessels of the local fleet that have run out to the fishing grounds have been unable to set their trawls and were obliged to come back empty. Under such conditions, coupled with the fact that the demand for fish has shown an increase the past week, our local dealers have been able to reduce the oversupply from the previous week although there are still ample supplies on hand.

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ANACORTES BUSINESS CHANGE.

Robinson Codfish Plant To Be Used for Grain and Provisions.

The Anacortes American says: "The reported sale of the Robinson codfish plant to the Anacortes Creamery Company has been confirmed by both Mr. Robinson and Mr. Armstrong.

"The sale has been made," said Mr. Robinson, "but we do not give up possession until June. My own plans for the future are not fully matured, but it is my expectation to remain in the fish business and on a much larger scale than in the past."

"We shall deal in grain and provisions of various kinds," said Mr. Armstrong. "We deal with a great many dairymen on the islands who have expressed a wish to be able to buy grain, hay and ground feed of us. It is more convenient to them and we will be able to make a fair profit. Our new business will bring many a dollar into Anacortes that now goes to Everett, Bellingham or Port Townsend."

LOST BOWSPRIT.

Sch. Selma Run Into This Morning By Sch. Moanam.

Sch. Selma, lying at anchor in the harbor was shorn of her bowsprit this morning, the result of being run into by sch. Moanam. A new stick will be put in immediately, so that the craft will not be delayed in sailing on her second halibut trip early next week.

The accident happened just before 7 o'clock. The Moanam bound down from Boston, was beating up the harbor, and her helmsman misjudged the distance in passing the Selma and the collision resulted, the latter's bowsprit going by the board. The Moanam was not damaged.

Nova Scotia Lobster Catch.

In stating that lobster fishing in northern Nova Scotia during the past season resulted in a catch far below the average, Vice-Consul-General Ross J. Hazeltine, of Halifax, describes the outcome of the fishermen's efforts to pack their own catches.

Fishermen did not get their traps placed until late in May on account of a disagreement with the packers, and afterwards their gear was successively destroyed by several storms. An extraordinarily poor season is reported as a consequence.

Differences arose at the beginning of the seasons between the fishermen and the packers which did not prove amenable to conciliation. During the season of 1908 the fishermen who owned their traps were paid \$3.75 per hundred weight for lobsters by a Louisburg factory, which since then has changed owners. The new proprietors refused to pay the former price and offered only \$2.25. The fishermen held meetings and resolved that they would not accept less than \$3. The packers refused to buy at that figure and the organized fishermen accordingly applied to the Dominion government for permission to pack their own lobsters. The department of marine and fisheries granted the privilege to a minimum of 15 fishermen to pack lobsters, profits to be shared between them, share and share alike. Two licenses were thus procured by the fishermen, who got to work about a month after the commencement of the lobster season.

Their efforts met with severe reverses, however. Two successive heavy storms destroyed almost all their traps, after they had experienced great difficulty in obtaining empty cans. The two factories succeeded in packing about 400 cases of lobsters. After all expenses were paid the men at one factory were paid about \$2.50 per hundredweight, and at the other factory about \$3 per hundred weight. In addition there remained on hand over 300 cases of empty cans, and other necessary outfits.

There is little doubt but that for adverse natural conditions, and with more efficient management and organization, the fishermen's co-operative plan would have met with a greater degree of success.

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Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Corona will engage in halibutting under command of Capt. Augustus Peterson.

Capt. Isaac Merchant is in command of sch. Colonial in the fresh halibut fishery.

Fresh Halibut Vessels Spoken.

Capt. Charles Colson of sch. Selma reports speaking schs. Juno, Paragon, Waldo L. Stream, Yakima, Niagara, Tacoma and Dictator on the eastern part of Quero bank. The latter craft left there and went to the Gully.

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TWO ARRIVALS AT BOSTON.

Most of the Market Fleet In Port For Shelter.

There are only two fish fares at T wharf this morning and these are small ones from over Plymouth way. The dock is still full of vessels which are storm bound by the northeaster. With fair weather Monday, there will be a general clearance.

The two crafts in are schs. Nokomis and Esther Gray of the cod netting fleet. They struck a \$3.50 market for their large cod.

The usual large number of arrivals is not looked for Monday, as most of the off shore and many of the market fleet are in for harbor.

The skippers of the big crafts report that the school of haddock on the southwest part of Georges is pretty well broken up and many of the vessels will now go to the southeast part or to Little La Have bank for fares.

For the week ending Thursday night, there were 116 fresh fish arrivals with 2,467,400 pounds of fish at Boston, against 108 arrivals with 1,855,600 pounds of fish for the corresponding month last year.

The receipts in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Nokomis, 4500 cod, 300 pollock.

Sch. Esther Gray, 500 haddock, 5000 cod, 500 pollock.

Haddock, \$2.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$3.50; market cod, \$1.75; pollock, \$2 to \$2.50.

FISH WITH LEGS.

Valuable Specimen Received at the Carnegie Institute.

A tin box marked "handle with care" arrived at the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg, yesterday, containing the specimen of scaleless aquapedic life called popularly a fish with legs, found by Dr. John Haseman at Mancas, Brazil.

Dr. Holland, director of the institute, said: "The specimen received is a scaleless animal, which is blind, has a dorsal cartilaginous cord instead of a true skeleton, has teeth in a small head, mouth on the under side and a protruding jaw, a dorsal skin flap resembling a fin and the anal opening at the tip of the tail, apparently the link between the salamander and a fish. The discovery is most important to zoologists."

Lunenburg, N. S., Bank Fishermen's Shares.

As an illustration of how the high line Nova Scotia fishermen fare in a season, read this, from the Clark's Harbor, N. S., Coast Guard:

"An exchange prints the following as a few of the higher results per man for the past season in the Lunenburg bank fishery:

"Sch. Yukon, Capt. Arthur Ritchey, \$316; sch. Revenue, Capt. Benjamin Cook, \$306; sch. Roma, Capt. Gabriel Himmelman, \$296; sch. Purana, Capt. D. Lohnes, \$301.

"It is assumed that these were the shares, clear of all charges attendant on the voyages, which of course lasted from spring till fall. Even then the respective earnings, not excepting the highest, will scarcely strike the majority of our readers as anything extraordinary. In fact, the impression will be the other way, with those who are accustomed to hear that branch of the fishery spoken of as paying better than any other.

"When men who spend the best part of the year absent from their homes, and necessarily hard at work most of the time, close the account with only \$300 apiece to their credit, it is evident they cannot enjoy life by the fireside during the winter months and have much to live on in the spring. As we recently observed, they must turn to lobstering, or some employment on shore, between bank voyages, otherwise, with the cost of living today, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible to come out square."

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Sold Halibut for \$3400 at Portland.

Sch. Selma, Capt. Charles Colson, weighed off 28,000 pounds of halibut at Portland yesterday, stocking nearly \$3400. The fish brought 12 cents per pound, right through.